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News Release

MINNEAPOLIS KIDNAPPER DEPORTED

BLOOMINGTON—U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention and removal officers have deported an illegal alien who was convicted of kidnapping a Minneapolis woman in 2001.

Aldo Acosta-Dominguez, 21, of Mexico, was convicted of kidnapping in Hennepin County District Court March 6, 2002 and sentenced to 60 months in prison.

ICE special agents encountered Acosta-Dominguez while he was serving his sentence and placed a "detainer" on him, which meant that ICE was notified prior to his release from prison. In an effort to ensure public safety, ICE conducts checks of jails and prisons nationwide under its Institutional Removal Program to identify criminal aliens.



Acosta-Dominguez was turned over to ICE on Monday and deported to Mexico Wednesday evening.

"This was a brutal crime that terrorized two innocent women," said Mark Cangemi, Special Agent-in-Charge of the ICE office in Bloomington. "Getting illegal alien criminals off the streets and out of the country is a top priority for us. We remain committed to restoring integrity to the nation's immigration system." Cangemi oversees the arrest of illegal aliens for a five-state area that includes Minneapolis.

At approximately 2 a.m., Aug. 25, 2001, as a woman pulled a car into the parking lot of her Minneapolis apartment building, a second car pulled in behind her, according to the criminal complaint filed in district court. A man emerged from the second car and pointed a shotgun at the woman, ordering her and her female passenger into his car, which contained five or six men.

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The women were driven to an unknown location and forced to kneel on the grass at gunpoint, where the men took their money and smashed a cell phone belonging to one of them. They victims were then separated, and Acosta-Dominguez and two other men took one woman to the Hidden Beach area in Minneapolis, where they walked her toward the beach at gunpoint, demanding sex. The man with the shotgun became distracted by others in the area, and the victim was able to escape and ask strangers to call the police.

Two other men forced the second woman into another car, where she was raped and threatened with death, according to the complaint. They eventually released her on a street in Richfield, keeping her shoes, wallet and purse. These men were never identified or apprehended.

Acosta-Dominguez told ICE agents that he had paid a smuggler \$2,500 to smuggle him into the United States from Mexico in 2000.

Acosta-Dominguez's cousin, Jesus Flores-Acosta, was also convicted of kidnapping for his involvement in the same incident and was also sentenced to 60 months in prison. Flores-Acosta will be eligible for supervised release on Jan. 19. ICE has placed a detainer on him, too..

During fiscal year 2004, which ended Sept. 30, ICE detention and removal officers removed 3,152 criminal aliens and status violators from a five-state area that includes Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska and Iowa. Of that number, 1,488 were classified as criminal aliens for having been convicted of such crimes as drug offenses, assault and battery, armed robbery, rape, and fraud, among others. The remaining 1,664 had committed administrative immigration law violations.

NOTE: For a JPEG digital image file Acosta-Dominguez, please contact Tim Counts at 952-853-2602 or via e-mail at Tim.Counts@dhs.gov.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security.